

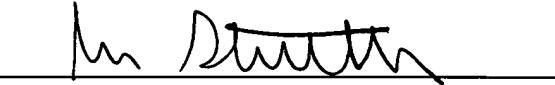
REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is concurrently filed with the above-entitled application (International Application PCT/FR2003/00096, filed on March 27, 2003), which is being filed for entry into the U.S. as a national stage application. In this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have inserted references to a related application in the specification, canceled claims 1 - 17, and added new claims 18 – 49. Accordingly, claims 18 – 49 are currently pending in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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